

## 1345.4 - SA Stats, Mar 2007

Previous ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 29/03/2007

# Summary

## Overview



### In this issue of SA Stats

**29/03/2007** | This is a quarterly data release and represents an overview of a number of economic, social and environment statistics. The topics covered include demography, state accounts, consumption, investment, production, prices, labour force, incomes, housing finance, and environment.



### Demography

Includes: **Estimated Resident Population**

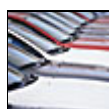
**22/03/2007** | The estimated resident population (ERP) for South Australia was 1,558,200 at 30 September 2006, an increase of 13,400 persons (0.9%) since 30 September 2005.



### State Accounts

Includes: **State Final Demand, Household Final Consumption Expenditure**

**07/03/2007** | South Australia's December 2006 quarter State Final Demand in chain volume (trend) terms was \$16,757m and Australia's Domestic Final Demand was \$245,890m.



### Consumption

Includes: **Retail Turnover, New Motor Vehicle Sales**

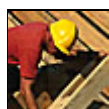
**02/03/2007** | The January 2007 trend estimate for South Australia's retail turnover was \$1,329.8m, compared with the Australian total of \$18,570.7m.



### Investment

Includes: **Private New Capital Expenditure, Mineral and Petroleum Exploration Expenditure**

**06/03/2007** | Between the September 2006 and the December 2006 quarters, the South Australian chain volume (trend) estimate of private new capital expenditure decreased by 0.3% to \$1,140m.



### Production

Includes: **Building Approvals**

**06/03/2007** | In January 2007, the total number (in trend terms) of dwelling units approved in South Australia was 883. Nationally, the total number (in trend terms) of dwelling units approved was 12,214.



### Prices

Includes: **Consumer Price Index (CPI)**

**24/01/2007** | The all groups consumer price index (CPI) for Adelaide increased by 3.0% in the 12 months to December 2006, compared with a 3.3% rise in the weighted average of eight capital cities.



### Labour Force

Includes: **Job Vacancies, Employed persons, Unemployment, Participation rate**

**10/01/2007** | In original terms, South Australia's total number of job vacancies increased to about 9,400 in November 2006 from 9,000 in August 2006. The November 2006 vacancies were 8% higher than in November 2005.



### Incomes

Includes: **Average Weekly Earnings**

**22/02/2007** | The trend estimate of average weekly (ordinary time) earnings for full-time adult persons in South Australia has increased by 4.2% in the 12 months to November 2006 reaching \$997.30.



## International Merchandise Trade

Includes: **Exports and Imports**

**19/12/2006** | The value of South Australian merchandise exports (in original terms) was \$582m in January 2007 down 22.2% from \$748m in December 2006. The value of merchandise imports increased to \$604m in January 2007 from \$502m in December 2006.



## Housing Finance

Includes: **Housing Finance Commitments**

**12/03/2007** | The trend estimate of the total value of housing finance commitments (owner occupation) in South Australia has risen by 13.5% to \$912m in the 12 months to January 2007.

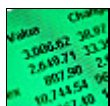


## Environment

Includes: **Household waste management**

**21/11/2006** | Almost all households in South Australia recycled waste (99%).

## In this issue of SA Stats



### IN THIS ISSUE OF SA STATS

This issue of SA Stats is a quarterly data release and represents an overview of a number of economic, social and environment statistics. The topics covered include demography, state accounts, consumption, investment, production, prices, labour force, incomes, housing finance, and environment.

SA Stats provides an overview of the South Australian economy. The overview will be updated on a quarterly basis (in March, June, September and December) and in the intervening months the publication will include feature articles that provide a South Australian focus on economic, social and environmental issues.

Explanatory Notes are not included in SA Stats in the form found in other ABS publications. Readers are directed to the Explanatory Notes contained in related ABS publications (links to source documents are provided in the summary table).

If you have any comments about this product please contact SA Client Services on ph: (08) 8237 7455 or alternatively email [sa.statistics@abs.gov.au](mailto:sa.statistics@abs.gov.au).

### SUMMARY – March 2007

|  | South Australia | Australia | %    | Period       |
|--|-----------------|-----------|------|--------------|
| Estimated Resident Population                | 1 558.2m        | 20 674.4m | 7.5% | 30 Sept 2006 |
| State Final Demand (trend)                   | 16 757m         | 245 890m  | 6.8% | Dec 2006 Qtr |
| Household Final Consumption Expenditure      | 9 761m          | 137 605m  | 7.1% | Dec 2006 Qtr |
| Retail Turnover                              | 1 329.8m        | 18 570.7m | 7.2% | Jan 2007     |
| New Motor Vehicle Sales                      | 5 189           | 85 677    | 6.1% | Feb 2007     |
| Private New Capital Expenditure              | 1 140m          | 17 814m   | 6.4% | Dec 2006 Qtr |
| Building Approvals (Dwelling units approved) | 883             | 12 214    | 7.2% | Jan 2007     |

|                                      |         |                               |        |          |
|--------------------------------------|---------|-------------------------------|--------|----------|
| Consumer Price Index<br>(all groups) | 158.8   | 155.6                         | 102.1% | Dec 2006 |
|                                      |         | (Average of 8 capital cities) |        |          |
| Job Vacancies                        | 9400    | 162 100                       | 5.8%   | Nov 2006 |
| Employed persons                     | 756 300 | 10 350.4m                     | 7.3%   | Feb 2007 |
| Unemployed persons                   | 44 500  | 495 900                       | 9.0%   | Feb 2007 |
| Average Weekly Earnings              | 997.3   | 1058.9                        | 94.2%  | Nov 2006 |
| Exports                              | 582m    | 12 678m                       | 4.2%   | Jan 2007 |
| Imports                              | 604m    | 14 591m                       | 4.1%   | Jan 2007 |
| Housing Finance<br>Commitments       | 912m    | 13 933m                       | 6.5%   | Jan 2007 |
| Average Loan Size                    | 182 000 | 223 700                       | 81.4%  | Jan 2007 |

## Articles

### ARTICLES

#### Household Waste Management in South Australia

#### Index of Articles published in SA Stats

Provides a historical listing of articles that have been released as part of this product

## Demography



### DEMOGRAPHY

#### ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION

The preliminary estimated resident population (ERP) for South Australia was 1,558,200 at 30 September 2006, an increase of 13,400 persons (0.9%) since 30 September 2005. This increase was slightly higher than that recorded for the 12 months ended 30 September 2005 (0.7%).

All states and territories recorded population growth over the 12 months ended 30 September 2006. Western Australia recorded the largest growth rate (2.0%) and Tasmania recorded the lowest growth rate (0.6%).

For the 12 months ending 30 September 2006, South Australia recorded a natural increase (i.e. net of births and deaths) of 6,160 persons. Net overseas migration provided a gain of 9,860 persons in the same period while net interstate migration realised a loss of 2,654 persons.

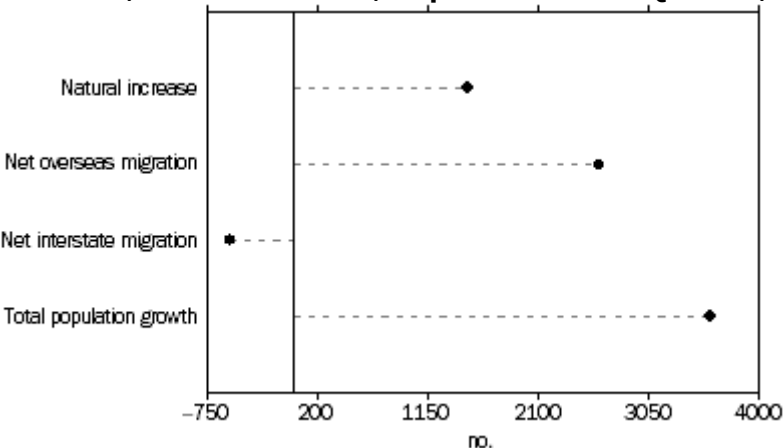
In the September 2006 quarter South Australia recorded net natural increase of 1,500 persons and a gain in net overseas migration of 2,626 persons. For every quarter since September 1986, with the exception of June 1993 (-217 persons) and June 1994 (-5), there has been a net overseas migration gain in South Australia's ERP. Net interstate migration in the September 2006 quarter resulted in a loss of 552 persons. Since September 1986, South Australia has only shown a net increase in population from interstate migration in 11

out of the 80 quarters, and 10 of these quarters occurred before March 1992.

Nationally, the preliminary estimated resident population (ERP) was 20,674,400 at 30 September 2006, an increase of 269,600 persons (1.3%) since 30 September 2005. The population growth rate for the year ended 30 September 2006 (1.3%) was about the same as that recorded for the year ended 30 September 2005 (1.3%). For the year ended 30 September 2006, Australia recorded a natural increase in population of 131,821 persons; net overseas migration resulted in a gain of 137,743 people.

In the September 2006 quarter Australia's population recorded a natural increase of 31,600 persons. The net overseas migration for Australia resulted in a gain of 37,350 persons.

**POPULATION CHANGE, COMPONENTS, September 2006 Quarter, South Australia**



Source: Australian Demographic Statistics ([cat. no. 3101.0](#))

**State Accounts**



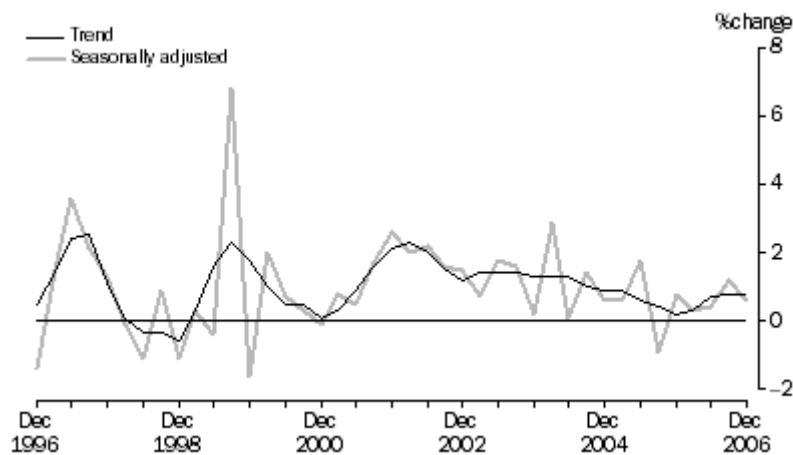
**STATE ACCOUNTS**

South Australia's December 2006 quarter State Final Demand in chain volume (trend) terms was \$16,757m and Australia's Domestic Final Demand was \$245,890m.

The 0.8% increase in South Australia's State Final Demand recorded for the December 2006 quarter was the same as the increase in the national Domestic Final Demand (0.8%). Of the other states and territories the strongest growth for the quarter was reported in Victoria (up 1.1%) and Western Australia (up 0.9%). State Final Demand for the quarter fell in the Northern Territory and Tasmania, by 0.9% and 0.4 % respectively.

In the December 1996 quarter South Australian State Final Demand comprised 7.0% of Australian Domestic Final Demand; by the December 2006 quarter, the proportion had declined to 6.8%. The proportional contribution to the Australian Domestic Final Demand of New South Wales and Tasmania also decreased over this time period while that of the other states and territories increased.

**STATE FINAL DEMAND, Chain volume measures,  
Percentage change from previous quarter, South Australia**



Source: [Australian National Accounts \(cat. no. 5206.0\)](#)

### HOUSEHOLD FINAL CONSUMPTION EXPENDITURE (HFCE)

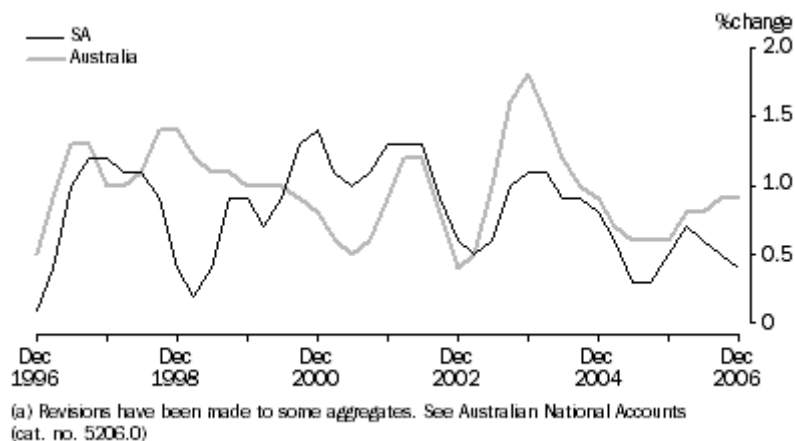
In chain volume (trend) terms, South Australia's December 2006 quarter HFCE was \$9,761m (7.1% of the national total of \$137,605m). This represented a 0.4% increase from the September 2006 quarter for South Australia and a 0.9% increase for Australia.

During the September 2006–December 2006 quarter, Furnishings and household equipment (up 3.5%) recorded the greatest increase in expenditure for South Australia, followed by Transport services (up 2.3%). For the same period, the greatest increases for Australia were in Transport services (up 2.9%) and Furnishings and household equipment (up 2.0%). Expenditure for the quarter on Purchase of vehicles recorded the greatest decrease for South Australia (down 2.0%) and Cigarettes and tobacco (down 0.4%) showed the greatest decrease for Australia.

The expenditure components which showed the largest increases for South Australia when comparing the December 2006 and December 2005 quarters were: Furnishings and household equipment (up 10.7% to \$560m); and Electricity, gas and other fuel (up 8.6% to \$303m). The expenditure components which showed the largest increase for Australia when comparing the December 2006 and December 2005 quarters were: Furnishings and household equipment (up 8.2% to \$8,121m); Transport services (up 7.7% to \$3,368m) and Clothing and footwear (up 6.6% to \$5,438m). Decreases in expenditure on Cigarettes and tobacco were recorded for both South Australia (a 6.8% decrease to \$178m) and Australia (a 6.0% decrease to \$2,308m).

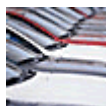
Comparing December 2006 with December 1996, HFCE has increased 39.3% for South Australia and 47.7% for Australia.

### HOUSEHOLD FINAL CONSUMPTION EXPENDITURE(a), Trend, Chain volume measures, Percentage change from previous quarter



Source: [Australian National Accounts \(cat. no. 5206.0\)](#)

## Consumption

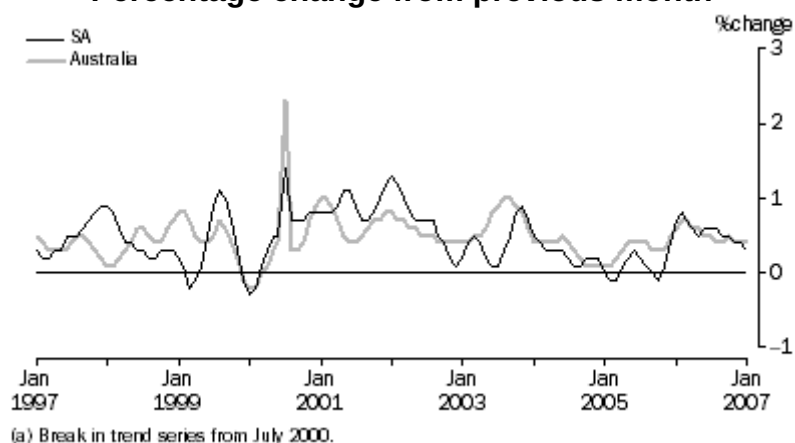


### CONSUMPTION

#### RETAIL TURNOVER

The January 2007 trend estimate for South Australia's retail turnover was \$1,329.8m, compared with the Australian total of \$18,570.7m.

#### RETAIL TURNOVER(a), Current prices, Trend, Percentage change from previous month



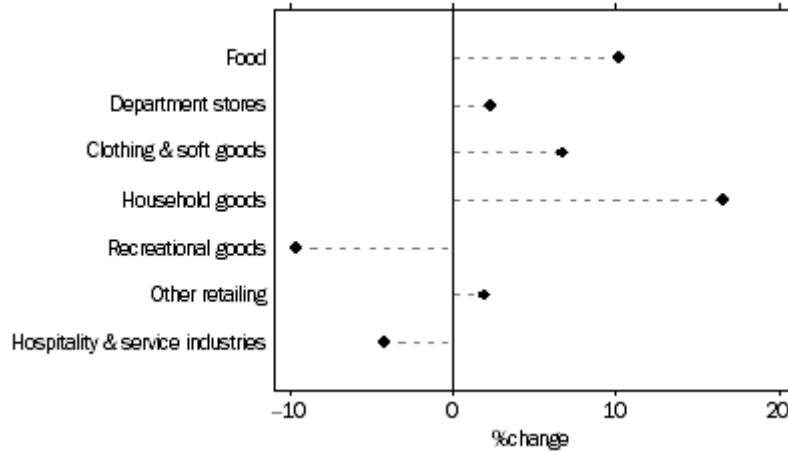
Source: [Retail Trade, Australia \(cat. no. 8501.0\)](#)

Comparing January 2007 with January 2006, retail turnover (trend) increased by 6.5% for South Australia and 6.3% for Australia.

Over the same period, the two South Australian industry groups with the largest percentage increases in retail turnover (trend) were Household goods, rising by 16.6% (\$192.1m), and Food, rising by 10.2% (\$596.5m). The South Australian industry group which reported the largest decrease in retail turnover (trend) was Recreational goods retailing, down by 9.6% to \$36.8m.

#### RETAIL TURNOVER BY INDUSTRY GROUP, Current prices, Trend,

## Percentage change over last twelve months, January 2007, South Australia

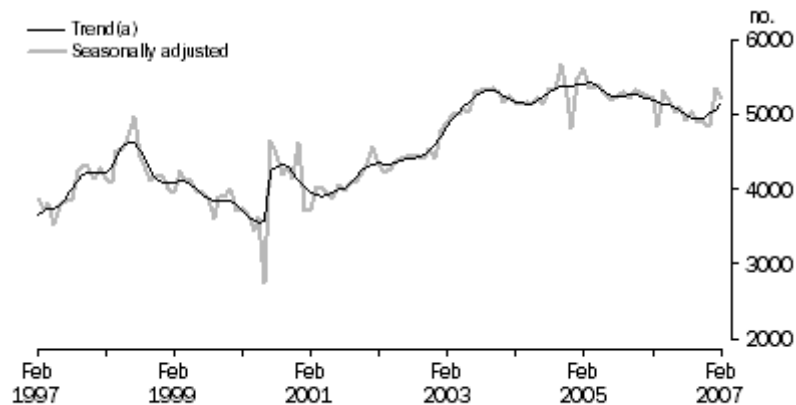


Source: Retail Trade, Australia (cat. no. 8501.0)

## NEW MOTOR VEHICLE SALES

In February 2007, 3,410 new passenger vehicles and 5,189 vehicles in total (in trend terms) were sold in South Australia. Corresponding sales for Australia were 53,452 and 85,677.

### NEW MOTOR VEHICLE SALES, South Australia



(a) Break in trend series between June 2000 & July 2000 with introduction of the New Tax System

Source: Sales of New Motor Vehicles, Electronic Delivery, Feb. 2007 (cat. no. 9314.0.55.001)

## Investment



### INVESTMENT

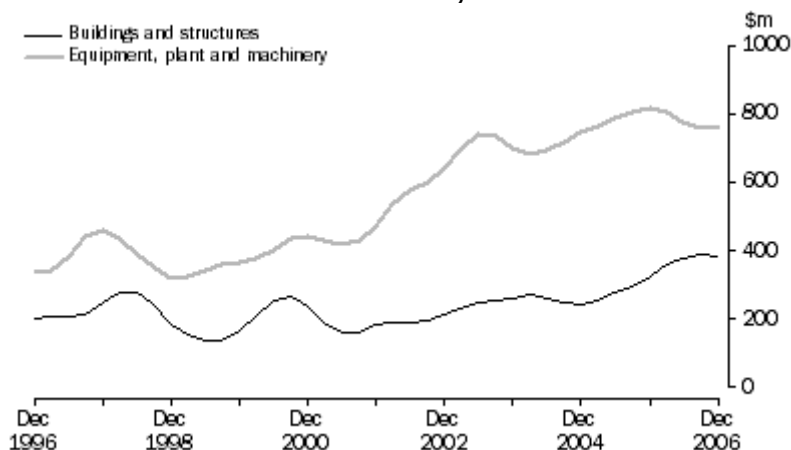
#### PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

Between the September 2006 and the December 2006 quarters, the South Australian chain volume (trend) estimate of private new capital expenditure decreased by 0.3% to \$1,140m. Expenditure on equipment, plant and machinery remained unchanged at \$756m, while expenditure on buildings and structures decreased by 0.8% to \$384m. For the same period, private new capital expenditure for Australia decreased by 2.3% to \$17,814m.

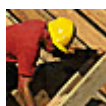
Comparing the December 2006 quarter with the December 2005 quarter, South Australia's total private new capital expenditure did not change. Expenditure on equipment, plant and machinery fell by 7.5%; expenditure on buildings and structures grew by 19.3%. Nationally, total private new capital expenditure decreased by 0.1%.



## PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE, Trend, Chain volume measures, South Australia



## Production



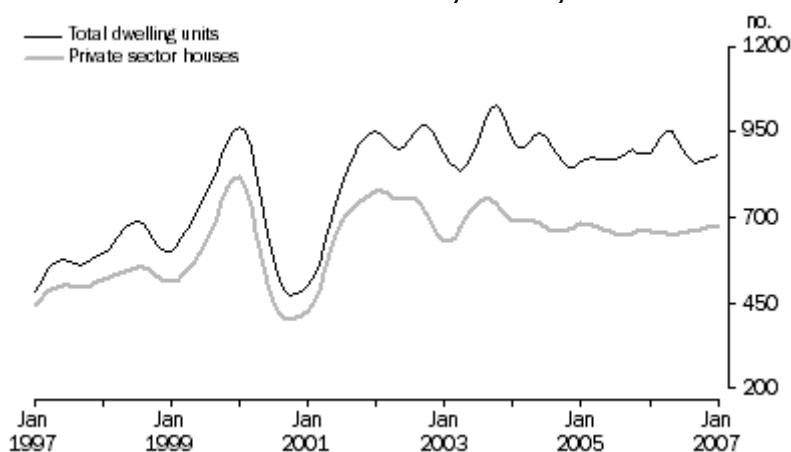
### PRODUCTION

#### BUILDING APPROVALS

In January 2007, the total number (in trend terms) of dwelling units approved in South Australia was 883. This continues the steady recovery from September 2006 when approvals were at the lowest level (861) since December 2004 (847). Nationally, the total number (in trend terms) of dwelling units approved was 12,214. This was the lowest number of approvals since May 2001.

The trend estimate for South Australian private sector house approvals has risen for each of the last eight months to January 2007 (673 approvals).

#### DWELLING UNITS APPROVED, Trend, South Australia

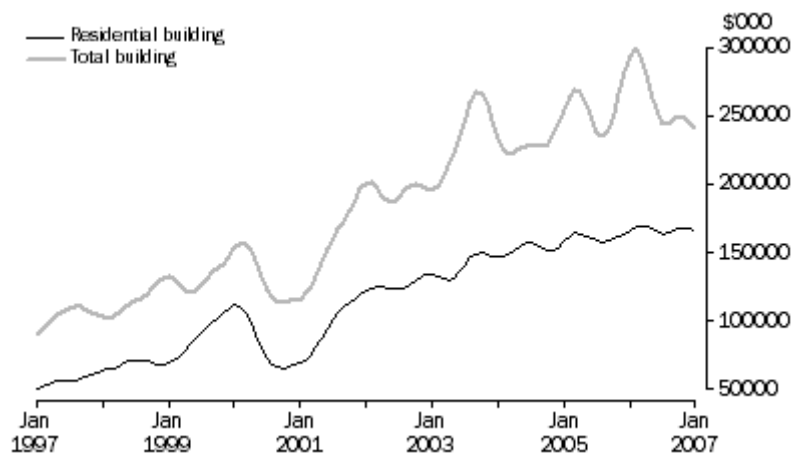


Source: [Building Approvals, Australia \(cat. no. 8731.0\)](#)

In January 2007, the total value (in trend terms) of building approvals was \$240.5m for South Australia and \$5,463.7m for Australia.

#### VALUE OF BUILDING APPROVED, Trend, South Australia





Source: [Building Approvals, Australia \(cat. no. 8731.0\)](#)

## Prices

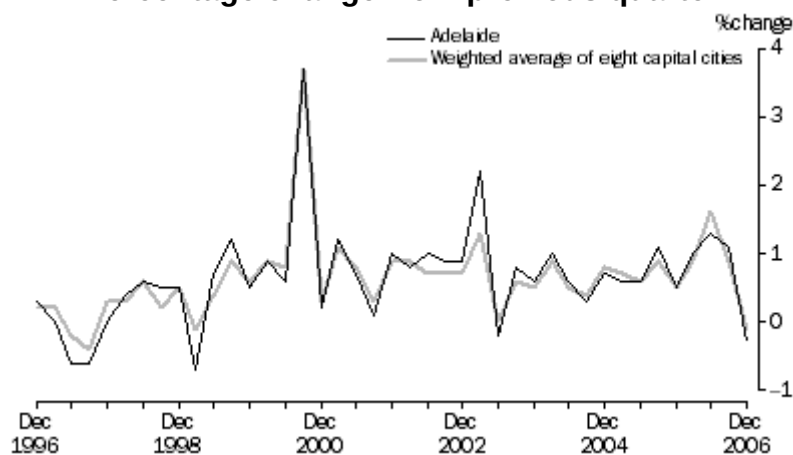


### PRICES

#### CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

The all groups consumer price index (CPI) for Adelaide increased by 3.0% in the 12 months to December 2006, compared with a 3.3% rise in the weighted average of eight capital cities. Adelaide's CPI fell by 0.3% between the December and September quarters of 2006; for the same period, the weighted average of eight capital cities fell by 0.1%.

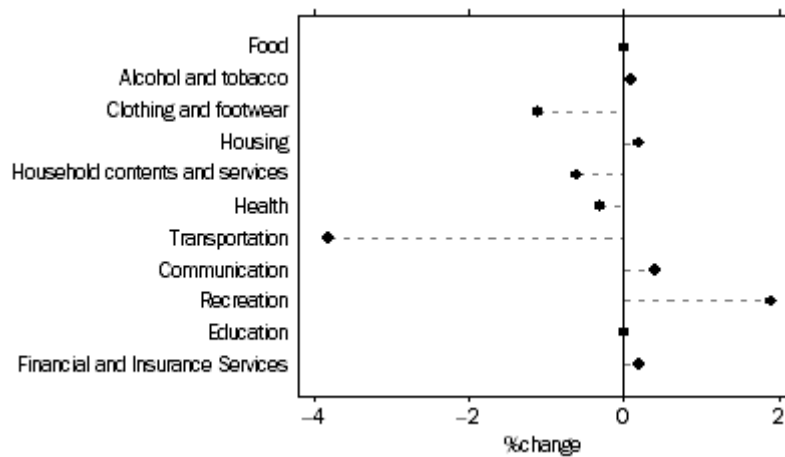
#### CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - ALL GROUPS, Original, Percentage change from previous quarter



Source: [Consumer Price Index, Australia \(cat. no. 6401.0\)](#)

In the December 2006 quarter, the categories with the largest percentage decreases (contributing to the overall CPI movement for Adelaide) were Transportation (3.8%); and Clothing and Footwear (1.1%). Recreation showed an increase of 1.9%.

#### CPI MOVEMENT, ADELAIDE, Original - DECEMBER 2006 QUARTER, Percentage change from previous quarter



Source: [Consumer Price Index, Australia \(cat. no. 6401.0\)](#)

## Labour Force

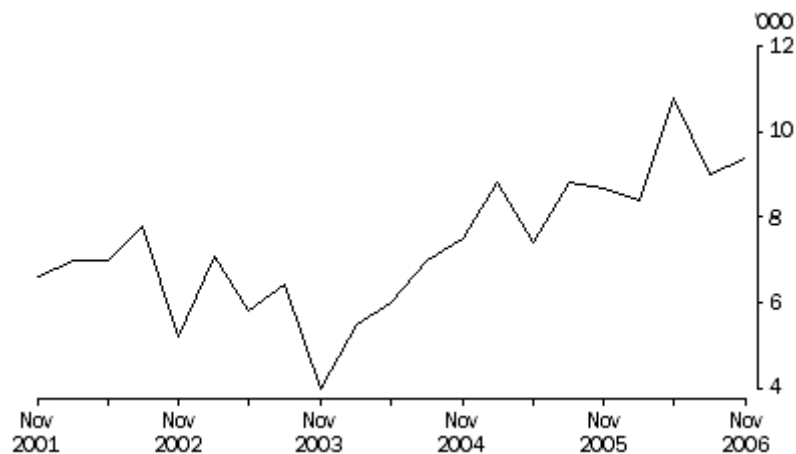


### LABOUR FORCE

#### JOB VACANCIES

In original terms, South Australia's total number of job vacancies increased to about 9,400 in November 2006 from 9,000 in August 2006. The November 2006 vacancies were 8% higher than in November 2005.

#### JOB VACANCIES, Original, South Australia

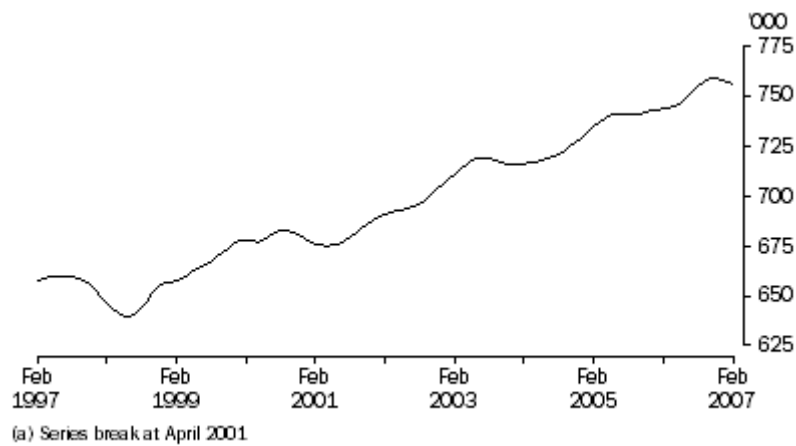


Source: [Job Vacancies, Australia \(cat. no. 6354.0\)](#)

#### EMPLOYED PERSONS

In trend terms, total employment in South Australia fell by 0.4% from a record high of about 759,200 persons in November 2006 to 756,300 persons in February 2007. Total employment in Australia, however, recorded a series high of about 10,350,400 persons in February 2007.

#### TOTAL EMPLOYED PERSONS(a), Trend, South Australia

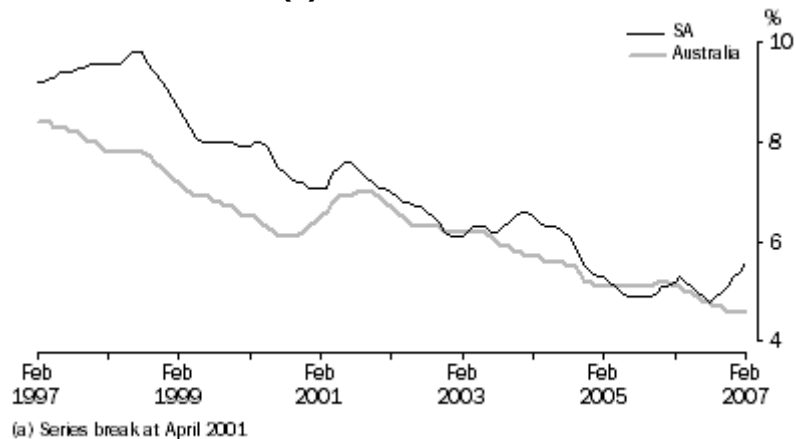


Source: [Labour Force, Australia \(cat. no. 6202.0\)](#)

## UNEMPLOYMENT

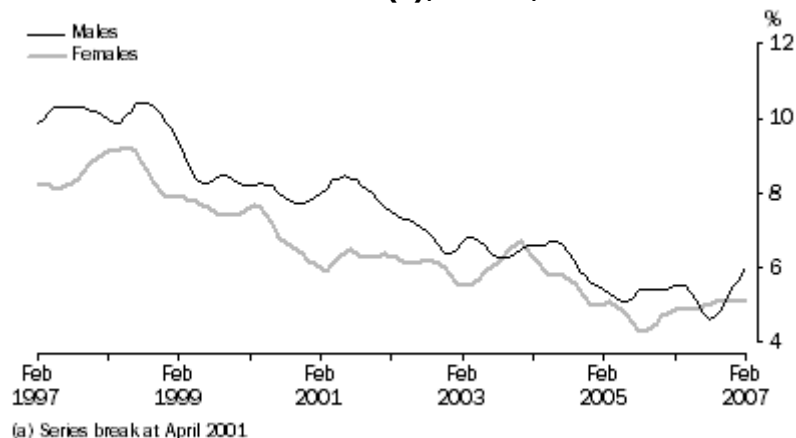
The trend estimate of the unemployment rate for South Australia rose in February 2007 to 5.6% after reaching a low of 4.8% in August 2006. Australia's unemployment rate remained steady at 4.6% for the four months to February 2007.

### UNEMPLOYMENT RATE(a), Trend, South Australia and Australia



Source: [Labour Force, Australia \(cat. no. 6202.0\)](#)

### UNEMPLOYMENT RATE(a), Trend, South Australia



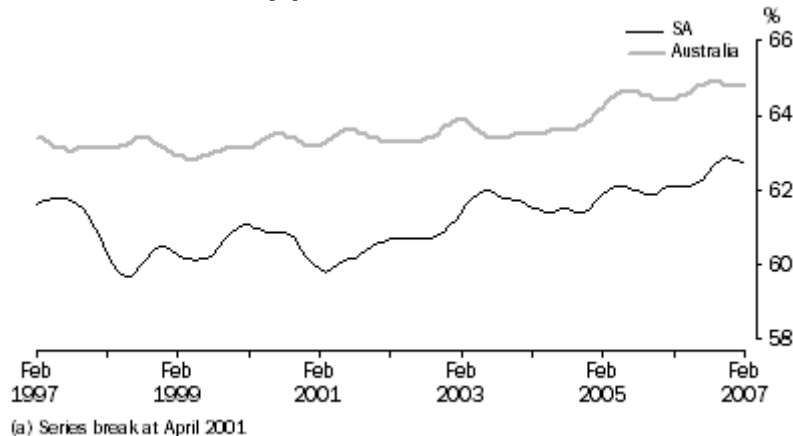
Source: [Labour Force, Australia \(cat. no. 6202.0\)](#)

For South Australia, the trend unemployment rate for females has remained steady at 5.1% since September 2006, after reaching a low of 4.3% in September 2005. In contrast, the unemployment rate for males has risen in from 4.7% in September 2006 to 6.0% in February 2007.

## PARTICIPATION RATE

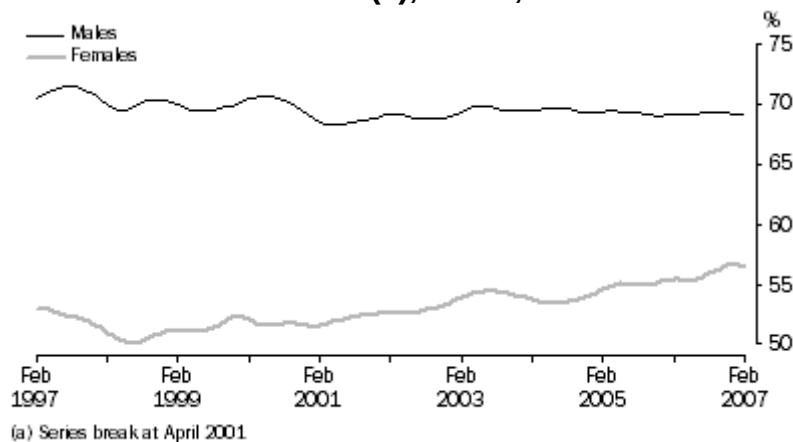
The trend estimate of the participation rate for South Australia fell slightly in February 2007 to 62.7% from 62.8%. South Australia's participation rate has remained at 62.0% or above since December 2005. In the ten year period from February 1997, the lowest estimate was 59.7% in May and June of 1998. Australia's trend participation rate remained steady at 64.8% for the four months to February 2007. The lowest participation rate reported for Australia was 62.8% in April and May of 1999; for May and June 1998 the Australian participation rates were estimated at 63.2% and 63.3% respectively.

### PARTICIPATION RATE(a), Trend, South Australia and Australia



Source: [Labour Force, Australia \(cat. no. 6202.0\)](#)

### PARTICIPATION RATE(a), Trend, South Australia



Source: [Labour Force, Australia \(cat. no. 6202.0\)](#)

For South Australia, the trend participation rate for females has remained above 56.0% since September 2006. The high point was 56.7% in December 2006, falling slightly to 56.6% in January 2007, and 56.5% in February 2007. Nationally the female participation rate has remained at 57.6% since October 2006. The participation rate for South Australian males has been steady at 69.0% or more since December 2002, reaching 69.9% in May and June of 2003 and falling to 69.1% in February 2007. The Australian participation rate for males has been consistently higher than that for South Australia, and was 72.3% in February 2007.

## Incomes

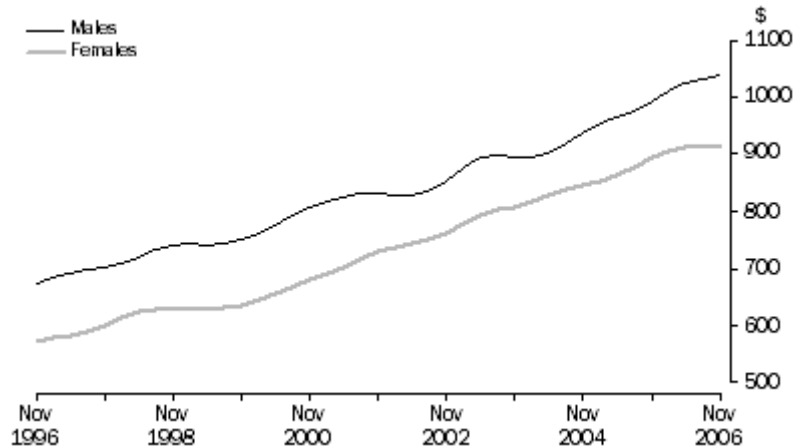


## INCOMES

### AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS

The trend estimate of average weekly (ordinary time) earnings for full-time adult persons in South Australia has increased by 4.2% in the 12 months to November 2006 reaching \$997.30. Nationally, the corresponding increase was smaller at 3.0% (up to \$1,058.90).

### AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, FULL-TIME ADULT ORDINARY, Trend, South Australia



Source: [Average Weekly Earnings, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6302.0)

For South Australia, the trend estimate of average weekly (ordinary time, full-time adult) earnings rose by 4.7% for males and 1.9% for females over the 12 months to November 2006.

The November 2006 female average weekly earnings (\$911.10) in South Australia were 87.8% of the corresponding male average weekly earnings (\$1,037.60), compared with 90.2% observed a year earlier (November 2005).

## International Merchandise Trade



## INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE

### EXPORTS AND IMPORTS

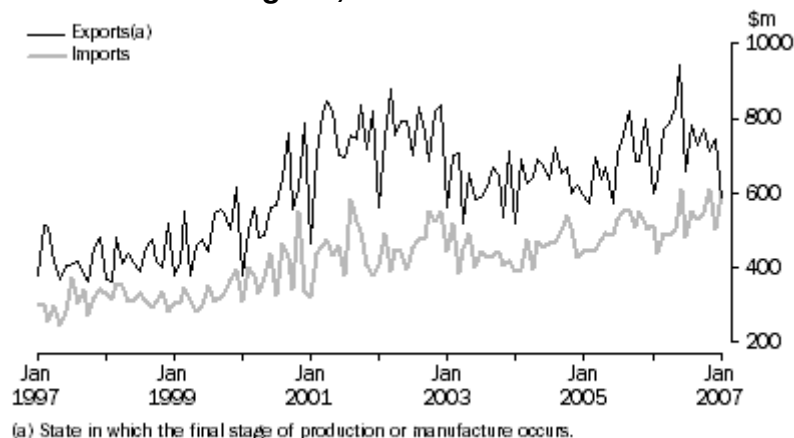
The value of South Australian merchandise exports (in original terms) was \$582m in January 2007 down 22.2% from \$748m in December 2006. This was a further decrease from the high of \$601m in January 2006. The decline between December 2006 and January 2007 was largely due to the value of exported Road vehicles, parts and accessories falling by \$158m (94.7%). Other commodities contributing to the decline were Wine exports which were down by \$27m (20.1%); Wool and sheepskins (down \$10m, 50.7%); and Machinery (down \$10m, 28.4%).

Australian exports also fell (by 12.8%) over this period. The main industries that contributed to the decrease in the value of Australian exports were Machinery and equipment

manufacturing (down \$567m, 39.4%), of which exports of passenger vehicles fell by \$188m (68.9%); Food, beverage and tobacco manufacturing down \$437m, 27.1%; Metal ore mining, down by \$486m, 19.4%; and Oil and gas extraction, \$239m (17.8%). The value of merchandise imports increased to \$604m in January 2007 from \$502m in December 2006; in January 2006 merchandise imports amounted to \$512m.

The month of January 2007 was exceptional, because the value of South Australia's imports exceeded the value of the State's exports, whereas for all periods from July 1996 to December 2006 the value of exports from South Australia had exceeded the value of imports. Nationally, for the same period, in most months, the value of imports has exceeded the value of exports.

### VALUE OF MERCHANDISE EXPORTS AND IMPORTS, Original, South Australia



Source: [International Trade in Goods and Services, Australia](#) (cat. no. 5368.0)

## Housing Finance

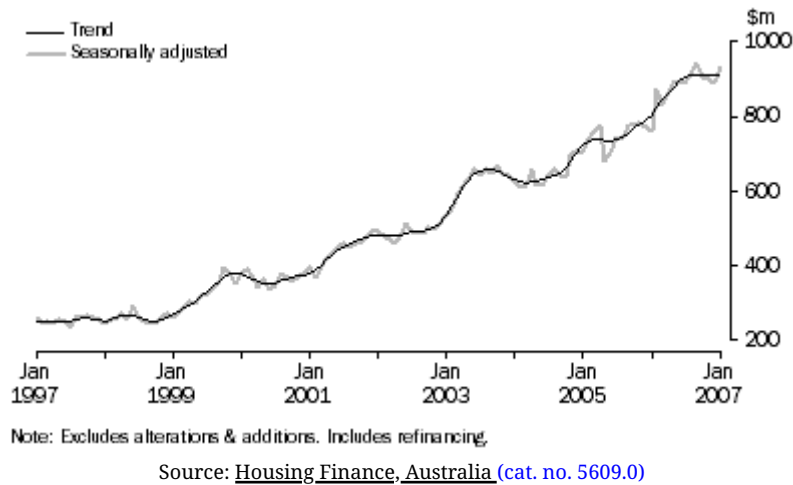


### HOUSING FINANCE

#### HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS

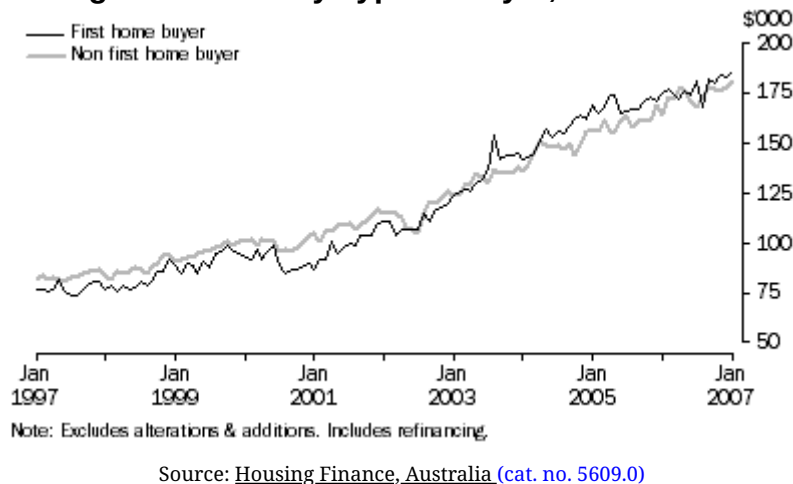
The trend estimate of the total value of housing finance commitments (owner occupation) in South Australia has risen by 13.5% to \$912m in the 12 months to January 2007. Nationally, for the same period, the increase was smaller at 7.6% (to a total of \$13,933m).

#### HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS (OWNER OCCUPATION), South Australia



Since January 1997, the average home loan commitment for owner occupied dwellings in South Australia has more than doubled from \$80,300 to \$182,000 in January 2007. Except for the months of April and May 2006, the average loan size for first home buyers has been greater than that for non-first home buyers since August 2003.

#### HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS (OWNER OCCUPATION), Original, Average Loan Size by Type of Buyer, South Australia



## Environment



### ENVIRONMENT - HOUSEHOLD WASTE MANAGEMENT IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

#### INTRODUCTION

In 2002–03, each person in South Australia generated on average about 2.25 tonnes of waste, much higher than the 1.63 tonnes of waste estimated for each person in Australia ([DEWR 2006](#)). How we deal with the waste generated is an important issue facing both the state and Australia as a whole. This article looks into the various ways South Australian households manage and dispose of their waste. Data were sourced from a national household survey conducted by the ABS in March 2006 and results published in the ABS publication [Environmental issues: People's views and practices, March 2006, \(cat. no.](#)



4602.0). Information presented from this survey include household recycling and reuse of waste materials, the ways in which waste materials are recycled or reused, and the disposal of hazardous waste materials.

## **SUMMARY**

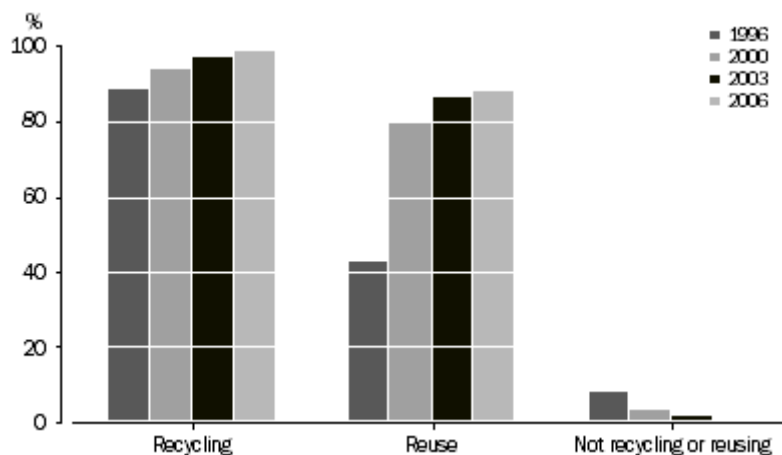
- Almost all households in South Australia recycled waste (99%).
- The waste materials recycled or reused by the highest proportion of South Australian households were plastic bottles (92%), glass (91%), plastic bags (89%) and paper/cardboard/newspapers (88%).
- The most common way that waste was recycled or reused by South Australian households was by reuse at home (88% of households that recycled/reused waste).
- A greater proportion of South Australian households that recycled waste used a central collection point other than a dump/waste transfer station (76%) than all Australian households (63%).
- The main reason why South Australian households did not recycle or reuse a particular waste was; they did not use enough materials to warrant recycling (88% of households that did not recycle/reuse waste).
- The item of hazardous waste disposed of by most South Australian households was household batteries; disposed of by 66% of households.
- Most of the hazardous waste materials generated by South Australian households are disposed of through the usual garbage collection (85%).
- Less than one third (32%) of South Australian households stated that they were aware of any services or facilities to dispose of hazardous waste.
- The main reason reported by South Australian households for not using hazard waste disposal services or facilities was that they did not generate enough hazardous waste to warrant use (55%).

## **RECYCLING AND REUSE OF WASTE BY HOUSEHOLDS**

From 1996 to 2006, the proportion of South Australian households that recycled waste increased from 89% in 1996 to 99% in 2006, while those that had reused waste increased from 43% to 88% over this period. This is a similar picture to Australia as a whole, where the proportion of households that recycled increased from 88% in 1996 to 98% in 2006, and those that reused waste increased from 37% to 87% over this period.

Of the 640,500 households in South Australia in 2006, less than 1% neither recycled nor reused waste materials. This was a decrease from 8% of South Australian households in 1996. The proportion of Australian households that did not engage in these activities similarly decreased from 9% to 1% between 1996 and 2006.

## **HOUSEHOLD WASTE RECYCLING AND REUSE, South Australia**



Source: Environmental issues: People's views and practices, March 2006 (cat. no. 4602.0)

In 2006, the proportion of South Australian households that recycled waste ranked third of all states and territories, behind the Australian Capital Territory (nearly 100%), and Victoria (99%). The proportion of South Australian households that reused waste ranked fourth of all states and territories, behind the Australian Capital Territory (93%), Queensland (92%) and Tasmania (92%).

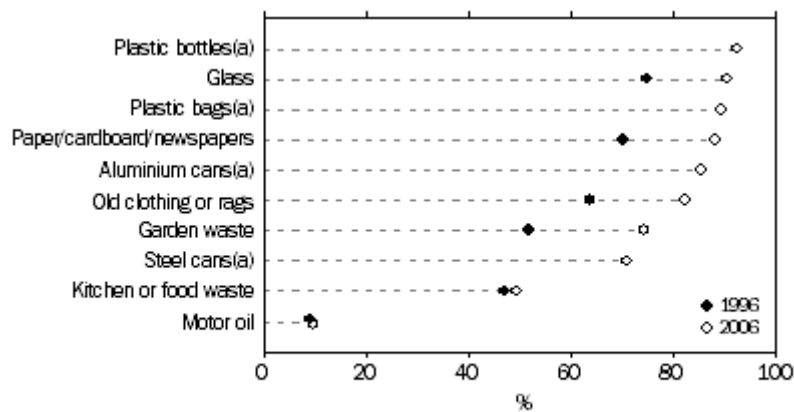
From 1996 to 2006, the level of participation in waste recycling or reuse by South Australian households increased for all types of waste materials surveyed.

## WASTE MATERIALS RECYCLED OR REUSED

In 2006, the waste materials which were reported as recycled or reused by the highest proportion of South Australian households were plastic bottles (92%), glass (91%), plastic bags (89%) and paper/cardboard/newspapers (88%). The materials most reported as recycled or reused by Australian households were paper/cardboard/newspapers (92%), glass (90%), plastic bottles (90%) and plastic bags (89%). This is not surprising as these are materials that may be readily recycled through usual kerbside recycling services. It is estimated that this type of recycling service is available to about 90% of households in Australia (Environmental issues: People's views and practices, March 2006, (cat. no. 4602.0)).

While the recycling or reuse of garden waste by South Australian households has increased from 52% of households in 1996 to 74% in 2006, that of kitchen or food waste changed little over this period (from 47% to 49%). Over this period, recycling or reuse of garden waste by Australian households increased from 51% to 66% of households, while that of kitchen or food waste only increased from 45% to 48%.

## WASTE MATERIALS RECYCLED/REUSED BY HOUSEHOLDS, South Australia —1996 and 2006



(a) No data available for 1996.

Sources: Environmental issues: People's views and practices, March 2006 (cat. no. 4602.0)

## HOW HOUSEHOLDS RECYCLED OR REUSED WASTE

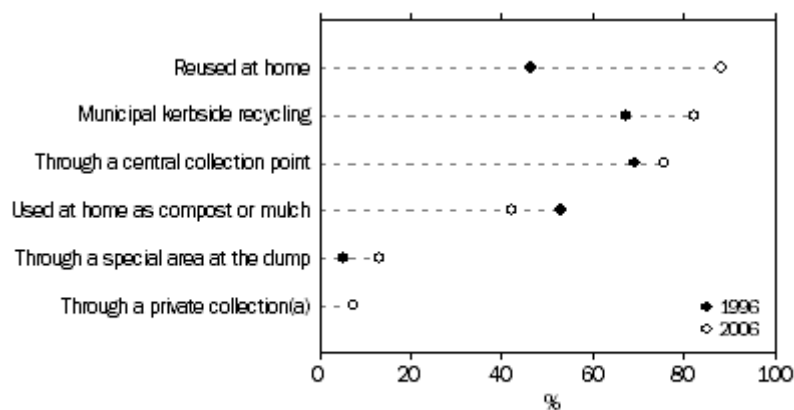
In 2006, the most common way that waste was recycled or reused by South Australian households was by reuse at home (88% of households that recycled/reused waste). This was also the most common way that waste was recycled for all Australian households (87%).

In 2006, municipal kerbside recycling was also used by the majority of South Australian households that recycled waste (82%), but this was less than that of Australian households (87%).

In 2006, a greater proportion of South Australian households that recycled waste used a central collection point other than a dump/waste transfer station (76%) than that of all Australian households (63%). In fact, recycling in this manner was more common by South Australian households than by households in any other state or territory, with the Australian Capital Territory ranking second (73%). This greater participation in recycling through a central collection point by South Australian households may be due to the refundable deposit available for drink bottles and cans.

An easy way for households to make a difference to the amount of waste sent to landfill is to compost their organic waste and use it in the garden. However, in 2006 only 42% of South Australian households that recycled or reused waste materials used waste at home as compost or mulch, less than that of all Australian households (46%). This is a decrease from 1996, where 53% of South Australian households and 54% of Australian households used waste as compost or mulch.

## WAYS HOUSEHOLDS RECYCLE WASTE, South Australia



(a) No data available for 1996.

## HOW DIFFERENT WASTE MATERIALS ARE RECYCLED OR REUSED

A type of waste material can be disposed of in a variety of ways. Often a particular type of waste is disposed of by more than one method. For example, a household may both reuse glass bottles at home as well as recycle glass bottles through their municipal kerbside recycling service. Table 1 shows the number of South Australian households that recycled or reused a waste material and compares the proportion that used a particular method to that of Australian households.

In 2006, the types of waste materials most commonly recycled or reused by South Australian households were plastic bottles, glass, plastic bags and paper/cardboard/newspapers. Of the households that recycled or reused plastic bottles (592,000), glass (580,500) or paper/cardboard/newspapers (564,200) in 2006, the most common method used to recycle these waste materials was kerbside recycling (71%, 77% and 88% respectively). In comparison, 90% of Australian households that recycled plastic bottles, 90% that recycled paper/cardboard/newspapers and 89% that recycled glass did so by using kerbside recycling in this period. Of the 571,800 South Australian households that recycled or reused plastic bags in 2006, 88% reused these at home, while only 9% recycled plastic bags through a central collection point that was not a dump or waste transfer station. In the same period, of the Australian households that recycled or reused plastic bags, 89% reused these at home, and even less (7%) recycled plastic bags through a central collection point that was not a dump or waste transfer station.

In 2006, of the South Australian households that recycled aluminium cans, 55% used kerbside recycling to do so, while 39% used a central collection point other than a dump or waste transfer station. In the same period, of the 81% of Australian households that recycled aluminium cans, 88% used kerbside recycling to do so, while only 7% used a central collection point other than the dump or waste transfer station.

In 2006, of the South Australian households that recycled or reused garden waste, 55% used municipal kerbside recycling to do so, while 43% reused it as compost or mulch. In comparison, of the Australian households that recycled or reused garden waste in 2006, just 33% used kerbside recycling to do so, while 57% reused it as compost or mulch in this period. It should be noted that not all municipal councils provide kerbside recycling services for garden waste.

While just under one half of South Australian households recycled or reused kitchen or food waste in 2006, the majority (57%) of households that did used it as compost or mulch, 27% reused it at home and 13% recycled it through kerbside recycling. In comparison, of the similar proportion of Australian households that recycled or reused kitchen or food waste in this period, a larger proportion (61%) used it as compost or mulch, 27% reused it at home and only 10% recycled it through kerbside recycling. Not all municipal councils provide kerbside recycling services for kitchen and food waste.

While proportionally fewer South Australian households than Australian households used kerbside recycling for plastic bottle (71% of South Australian households compared to 90% of Australian households), glass (77% compared to 89%) and aluminium cans (55% compared to 88%), this was balanced by proportionally more South Australian households using a central collection point other than a dump or waste transfer station to recycle plastic bottles (30% of South Australian households compared to 3% of Australian households), glass (17% compared to 2%) and aluminium cans (39% compared to 7%). This is consistent with the refundable deposit available for drink bottles and cans in South Australia which must be delivered to a central collection point for refund.

Proportionally more South Australian households (55%) than Australian households (33%) used kerbside recycling for garden waste. Conversely, proportionally more Australian households (57%) used compost or mulch to recycle garden waste than South Australian households (43%). Most South Australian metropolitan municipal councils provide kerbside recycling for garden waste.

**TABLE 1: WASTE RECYCLED OR REUSED BY HOUSEHOLDS, By method(a), South Australia and Australia — March 2006**

|                             | Households that recycled (b) | Kerbside recycling |        | Private collection |        | Special area at dump/ waste transfer station |        |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|--------|--------------------|--------|--|--------|
|                             | SA '000                      | SA %               | Aust % | SA %               | Aust % | SA %   | Aust % |
| Plastic bottles             | 592                          | 71                 | 90     | 1                  | 2      | 5  | 2      |
| Glass                       | 581                          | 77                 | 89     | 1                  | 2      | 4  | 2      |
| Plastic bags                | 572                          | 10                 | 11     | 1                  | 1      | 0  | 1      |
| Paper/cardboard/ newspapers | 564                          | 88                 | 90     | 1                  | 2      | 1  | 2      |
| Aluminium cans              | 548                          | 55                 | 88     | 1                  | 2      | 7  | 3      |
| Old clothing or rags        | 527                          | 2                  | 1      | *1                 | 5      | *1   | 6      |
| Garden waste                | 477                          | 55                 | 33     | 4                  | 5      | 2  | 6      |
| Steel cans                  | 455                          | 92                 | 94     | *2                 | 2      | *1   | 1      |
| Kitchen waste or food waste | 317                          | 13                 | 10     | 2                  | 5      | 0  | 0      |
| Motor Oil                   | 62                           | *4                 | 3      | *3                 | 3      | 39   | 35     |

\* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

n.a. not applicable

(a) More than one method of recycling or reusing may be specified for each product, so proportions do not add up to 100%.

(b) The total number of South Australian households that reported they had recycled or reused this waste material in 2006. The total number of South Australian households in 2006 was 640,500.

Source: [Environmental issues: People's views and practices, March 2006 \(cat. no. 4602.0\)](#)

**TABLE 1 (cont.): WASTE RECYCLED OR REUSED BY HOUSEHOLDS, By method(a), South Australia and Australia — March 2006**

|                             | Households that recycled (b) | Central collection point (not dump/ waste transfer station) |        | Compost or mulch |        | Reused at home |        |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|---|--------|------------------|--------|----------------|--------|
|                             | SA '000                      | SA %  | Aust % | SA %             | Aust % | SA %           | Aust % |
| Plastic bottles             | 592                          | 30  | 3      | n.a.             | n.a.   | 7              | 10     |
| Glass                       | 581                          | 17  | 2      | n.a.             | n.a.   | 17             | 17     |
| Plastic bags                | 572                          | 9   | 7      | n.a.             | n.a.   | 88             | 89     |
| Paper/cardboard/ newspapers | 564                          | 6   | 2      | 4                | 5      | 15             | 13     |
| Aluminium cans              | 548                          | 39  | 7      | n.a.             | n.a.   | *1             | 0      |
| Old clothing or rags        | 527                          | 71  | 69     | n.a.             | n.a.   | 48             | 41     |
| Garden waste                | 477                          | *1  | 1      | 43               | 57     | 6              | 7      |
| Steel cans                  | 455                          | 5   | 1      |                  |        | 2              | 2      |

|                             |     |    |    |      |      |    |    |
|-----------------------------|-----|----|----|------|------|----|----|
| Kitchen waste or food waste | 317 | 0  | 0  | 57   | 61   | 27 | 27 |
| Motor Oil                   | 62  | 25 | 23 | n.a. | n.a. | 17 | 28 |

\* estimate is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes

n.a. not applicable

(a) More than one method of recycling or reusing may be specified for each product, so proportions do not add up to 100%.

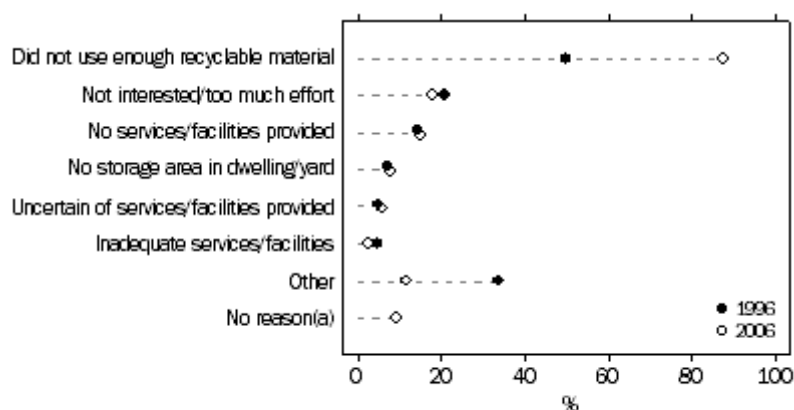
(b) The total number of South Australian households that reported they had recycled or reused this waste material in 2006. The total number of South Australian households in 2006 was 640,500.

Source: [Environmental issues: People's views and practices, March 2006 \(cat. no. 4602.0\)](#)

## REASONS FOR NOT RECYCLING OR REUSING WASTE

The main reasons why South Australian households did not recycle or reuse a particular waste in 2006 were: they did not use enough materials to warrant recycling (88% of households that did not recycle/reuse waste), they were not interested or it was too much effort (18%) and no services or facilities were provided (15%), the same reasons cited nationally (86%, 17% and 16% respectively).

### REASONS WHY HOUSEHOLDS DO NOT RECYCLE, South Australia



(a) No data available for 1996.

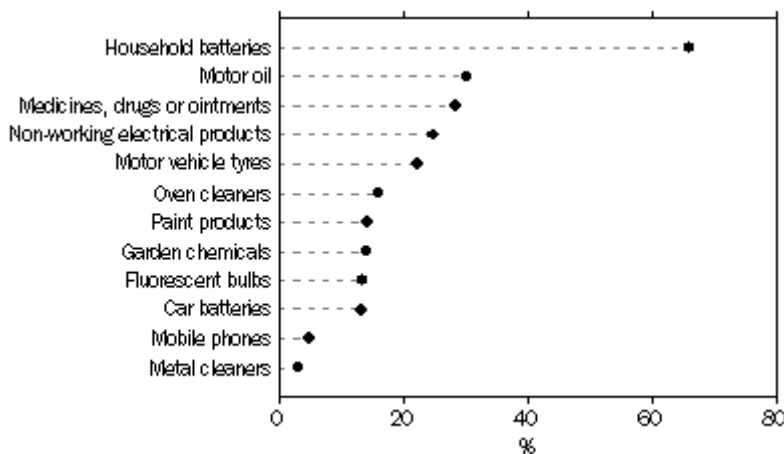
Sources: [Environmental issues: People's views and practices, March 2003 \(cat. no. 4602.0\)](#)

## HAZARDOUS WASTE

Waste is 'hazardous' when it contains substances or has properties that make it harmful to human health or the environment. While in small quantities they may seem harmless, considerable quantities of these materials can end up being disposed of in landfills that are not designed to accept this type of waste. Hazardous wastes require careful management as they may be poisonous, corrosive, flammable, explosive or reactive.

South Australian households use a number of materials at home that can result in hazardous waste and these are mainly household batteries (disposed by 66% of household), motor oil (30%) and medicines, drugs or ointments (29%). Household batteries (66% of households), motor oil (35%), and medicines, drugs and ointments (30%) were also the hazardous wastes most disposed of by all households in Australia.

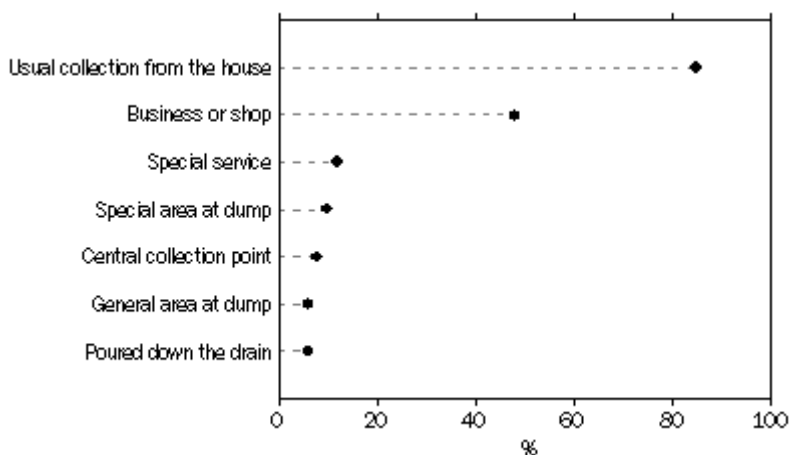
### HAZARDOUS WASTE MATERIALS DISPOSED OF BY HOUSEHOLDS, South Australia



Source: Environmental issues: People's views and practices, March 2006 (cat. no. 4602.0)

Most of the hazardous waste materials generated by South Australian households are disposed of through the usual garbage collection from the house (85%). This was the same proportion as for all Australian households (85%).

### **WAYS HOUSEHOLDS DISPOSED OF BY HAZARDOUS WASTE, South Australia**



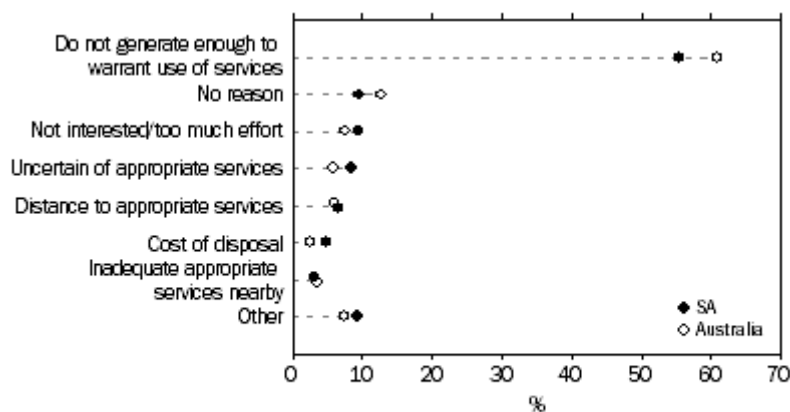
Source: Environmental issues: People's views and practices, March 2006 (cat. no. 4602.0)

When asked if they were aware of any services or facilities to dispose of hazardous waste, in 2006 less than one third (32%) of South Australian households stated that they were. This was the same proportion as for all Australian households (32%).

The primary reason reported by South Australian households for not using hazardous waste disposal services or facilities available in their local area was that they did not generate enough hazardous waste to warrant use (55%). This was also the primary reason reported by all households in Australia (61%). One tenth (10%) of South Australian households stated they had no reason for not using hazardous waste disposal services, while 9% reported they were not interested or it was too much effort as a reason. Australian households were similar, with slightly more reporting no reason for not using hazardous waste disposal services (13%), and slightly less reporting they were not interested or it too much effort (8%) as a reason.

### **REASONS DID NOT USE HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL SERVICES OR FACILITIES(a), Households—March 2006**





(a) More than one reason may be specified by each household.

Source: Environmental issues: People's views and practices, March 2006 (cat. no. 4602.0)

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## About this Release

An economic summary for South Australia is provided each quarter in the form of graphs and explanatory text. In the second and third months of each quarter one or more articles examine an area of specific interest to South Australia.

Replaces: 1307.4

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